Camp: 9th Mass: Battery, Abercrombie's Div.
Centreville Va: May 27th 1863

Miss Deborah Weston!

Your favor of the 21st inst. I received last Sunday afternoon – I thank you very much the kindniss in informing me of Almira the reason why she could not write the time She stayed at Mrs Rand's, it looks very reasonable that She could not write, for I know that the Childern there are very uneasy and troublesome – also I beleave you That it is hard for Almira to write a letter, while She just began to learn how to write – I agree very much with you the kindniss in offering to correct her writing, and to point out the mestakes, which will help her a good deal to learn quick –

I am glad to hear that the Memorials reached their destination – also that Mrs Weston was pleased with it – I understand that She is intent to have it put up in the Post Office

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a Short time, so that the Weymouth People will all see it — I am very glad of it if Mrs Weston has it hanging in the Office the Folks will aske who send it — whereby the Answer will be, that it was sent to Mrs Weston by ———. Who will be remembered then — I am sorrow that Miss Anne has not recieved my letter — which I have sent to her somtime ago — it was a long letter — containing a good deal of Wasey Weston etc — Where is he now? is he going to New-York again? — Please when you write to your Brother Mr Weston again at New York — to give him my kind regard and remembrance, that the Cheese which he left me at Fort Ramsay was ezelent good and lasted me most three Months, and the Cigars were so fine that I made them last a great while I did not smoke more of them — then one a day — so they last me 100 days I got Six left yet —. I think I ought to thank him for it in writing the time as he went home — but I did not think of it — untill now that it is gone, perceiving the Value of it, the benefit I had of it — I wish you mention in your letter to him — that I thank him from all my heart — I know Mr Weston is a very good hearty Gentleman

I shall soon write to Miss Anna another letter please give her so to all your Sisters Miss Emma and Mrs Chapman and to the Doctor my kind regards, with three Cheers for the Victory of Vicksburg —! What does Mrs Weston think of the War now? — I remember that She is so pleased when She is alone at her Window reading the War news — I hope She is in a perfect good health and Strenght — I wish I could have a short interview with her — I beleave we would agree that if we fight the Rebels out of Virginia the rest will follow — and then they will put on the Seven Mile boots to deferent places —

I got just through with fixing my tent — it is beautiful now — Stockadet again — the Sergt — and I only occupied it alone so he has got his bunk on the left Side and I have got my on the right side two feet from the Ground covered with bags filled with hay in the Middle of the tent we have a table oh I tell you we take Comfort now to live here — everything is so handy to put things and all on one place. — We have had very Warm Weather here last Week — so that we did drill in the Morning at 5½ o Clock instead at day time — yesterday and to day it is cool again, and drilled twice once in the Morning & afternoon

We have had bad news here last Sunday Evening – a Tellegraph despatch came in to Mr. Bartlet Edson of North Bridgewate Mass – who is in my Detachment – that his Wife died a few days ago – Mr. Edson leaves three Children – so he desired very much to go home on a Forlough – the Captain made one out and Mr. Edson was granted a Fourlough at Headquarte for ten days – but has got a letter to Gen. Heintzelman trying to have it extendet a little longer – Mr. Edson left Camp yesterday and started for home – the Officers gave a present of five dollars – he is to pass Weymouth on t Fallriver Road – on his return to the field he promissed me to call in at the South Braintry Depo and aske the Depo master if there was anything left for me So if the Revolver is ready for me – there is a good chance to send it – –! The Evening Traveller I have received I thank you – The Men here in Camp are very healthy and have nice times on account we have been paied off for four Months – We have now a very nice Suttler he use to keep a Eating house at Camp Chase – just in front of our Camp as we were there – he tooke great interest in the Battery who saved his whole Store once in the Night – in defending him and drove a Indiana Regt back while making a Ra to plunder his Shop – they just came from the front and had 2 years no Money – Well we stood guard for him and charged once on them – as they disapeared – the time we were out of Money he trusted the boys on Tabacko – for about 150 $ he is since a Weeke ago our Suttler and sells very reasonable –

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March 27/63

I have read the Speech of Gov. Andrew of the presentation of Flags to the 54th (colored) Regt and am greatly pleased with it — the Negroes must have felt proud to receive all those nice flags for which they are intent to fight for — it would be the greatest pleasure for me to see a Colored Regt — I hear they march very proud like Soldiers — and as the papers states fight like Soldiers too — I think it very good for having giving them the Opportunity to list as Soldiers to fight for their Freedom and I should think that they might fight hard for it, no doubt they will to have all their Breathern — Sisters — Childern and Childs Childern free for ever — This Colored Regiments will strengthen the Army at some time to come but I should like to see more Regt coming in as fast as possible — for the Soldiers are needet this Summer — I mentione it to you once last Winter that so many are going home — they will be missed very much — they are old Soldiers — Recruits are needet for them and they should come in to replace the troops they are going home — Now I heard a good many say — that Recruits will fight just as well as old troops — but I do not beleave of it — they may do by hand to hand fighting — or Bush fighting but in the open field by Menouvring with skill against the Rebels that must be old troops — who understand the Flank-movements the Rebels so often trye — I would have a reserve there all the time in the rear of the Battle ground so as to let them come in in the last part of the fight when then they are fresh and will do the Work up to win the Victory — — Hooker is not doing anything more as to hold his possition because he is to Weake against Lee —

We need Soldiers very much Now, so them rush up ready to join us in the coming Battles this Summer — else we may live another Winter out here and nothing is done — My Idea would be and is to have our Army Strenghten again rush up and give the Rebels Battles where ever we meet them so the War will be Short — this Way the War has been carried on – to gain a Victory once then loose one again – then take Recruits just when they Should be ready to be able to stand the Battle – per this way the War may last a good many years yet especially when the Rebels hold their Sea-Ports so that England is able to keep up their Provision and War Stores to the Rebelion – so on this account we must fighting them by Land to thin them out – that they will feel to give up and make Peace ——

I suppose in Mass or at your Farm it looks nicely in the Meadows and field have you planted your Peas Potatoes Corn etc – how is it? do you plant much this Summer, and how does it looks on the ~~[illegible]~~ Watch-house-hill – how is Dazy – Alas – Violett and Willemina – Puckity – is Puckity lame yet sometimes; has the Doctor got his Pigeons yet – how many hens have you now – twenty – or more – have you two horses

do you pick many Stones from your Land
this Spring — how is the new Road
through the Swamps at Watch-house hil
have you gravelled any Stones over 1 fo
there —? is Slops in new Yorke yet
how is Watch does he fight yet as mu
he used to — have you got any Pigs —?
— How is Mr. Henry Cowen ~~he~~ is he in th
Service yet 11th Regt.? and how is William
Baker — the last I heard of him was that he w
missing in the field — I have aske Almira som
agoe — but have got no reply of it recieved —
please send me a good deal news of Weymouth.
how are the Toreys — Rame Toreys — Turn
Toreys — and Truffen — —
My kind regards to Mrs. Weston
and to Almira and little Anna — so on
all the rest
Yours truly friend

Ms.A.9.2.31.52